MARY JANE
&
BLACK CAT
GIRL POWER
MARVEL
4
MacKAY
CARRATÙ

MARY JANE & BLACK CAT

MARY JANE WATSON and **FELICIA HARDY,** A.K.A. the **BLACK CAT,** are in a bit of a jam. Ever since **BEN REILLY,** A.K.A. **CHASM,** and **MADELYNE PRYOR**, A.K.A. the **GOBLIN QUEEN,** opened the doors to Limbo, demonic spirits have been wreaking havoc on New York City! Felicia made her way across the city to help MJ and her family, as a favor to MJ's ex and Felicia's current (secret) boyfriend, **PETER PARKER,** A.K.A. **SPIDER-MAN**. But when Felicia arrived, she was surprised to find MJ had powers -- and was fully capable of defending herself!

They were soon sucked through a portal into Limbo -- where they struck a deal with **BELASCO,** Limbo's former ruler. The two Earth girls would be granted passage back to Earth in exchange for braving the **SCREAMING TOWER** to retrieve the key to controlling the demonic dimension -- Belasco's lost **SOULSWORD!** Once inside, they formed a shaky alliance with S'YM and managed to escape the Tower's defenders -- only to learn that the Screaming Tower was built not to keep enemies out but to keep its lethal **GUARDIAN** in! A Guardian that now has MJ, Felicia and S'ym wrapped in its deadly tentacles!

WRITER: JED MacKAY

ARTIST: VINCENZO CARRATÙ

COLOR ARTIST: BRIAN REBER

LETTERER: VC's ARIANA MAHER

COVER ARTISTS: PAULO SIQUEIRA & RACHELLE ROSENBERG

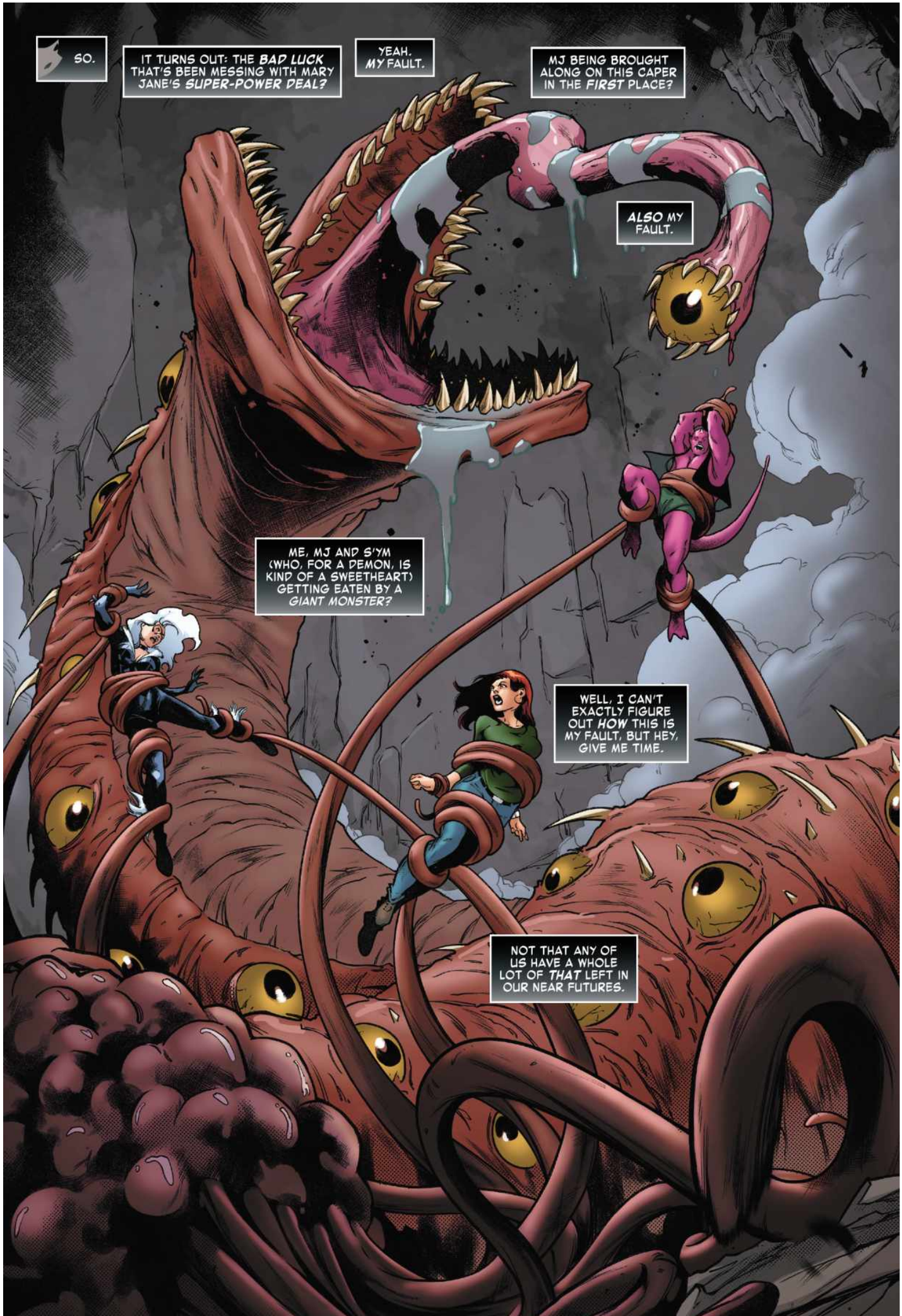
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS: ALEX ROSS (TIMELESS); RUSSELL DAUTERMAN

SENIOR DESIGNER: ADAM DEL RE

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: TOM GRONEMAN

EDITOR: DEVIN LEWIS

EDITOR IN CHIEF: C.B. CEBULSKI


SO.
IT TURNS OUT: THE BAD LUCK THAT'S BEEN MESSING WITH MARY JANE'S SUPER-POWER DEAL?
YEAH. MY FAULT.
MJ BEING BROUGHT ALONG ON THIS CAPER IN THE FIRST PLACE?
ALSO MY FAULT.
ME, MJ AND S'YM (WHO, FOR A DEMON, IS KIND OF A SWEETHEART) GETTING EATEN BY A GIANT MONSTER?
WELL, I CAN'T EXACTLY FIGURE OUT HOW THIS IS MY FAULT, BUT HEY, GIVE ME TIME.
NOT THAT ANY OF US HAVE A WHOLE LOT OF THAT LEFT IN OUR NEAR FUTURES.

REALLY, FELICIA?!
PETER?! THAT'S WHAT THIS HAS BEEN ABOUT? SERIOUSLY?!
I'M NOT GOING TO GET BACK TO MY KIDS BECAUSE OF YOU AND PETER?!
LOOK, I WANTED TO TELL YOU--
BUT I COULDN'T.
I KNOW WHAT I TOLD YOU LAST TIME, THAT I DIDN'T WANT HIM BACK--
BUT I WENT BACK ON MY WORD.
OH WOW, ALL THIS TIME I WAS WAITING TO BETRAY YOU, YOU WERE BETRAYING EACH OTHER?
EARTH GIRLS REALLY ARE AMAZING! WOW!
SHUT UP!

WELL, EARTH GIRLS...
...LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT GOING TO GET THE CHANCE TO BETRAY YOU *AFTER ALL--*
KASSHHH
AHHEEEEE!
S'YM!
WHUMP
HE WAS A DEMON, SURE.

SLICE
AND HE WAS GOING TO BETRAY US TO CLAIM THE SOULSWORD--CAN'T FORGET ABOUT THAT.
BUT HE WAS UP FRONT ABOUT IT, AND REALLY, THAT'S ABOUT ALL YOU CAN ASK OF SOMEONE.
I LIKED HIM.
JUST LIKE I LIKE MJ.

SHE DOESN'T DESERVE TO GO DOWN LIKE THIS.
HEY.
I CAN'T KILL IT.
BUT WHEN IT *FLINCHES,* YOU *HAUL ASS,* YOU HEAR ME?
WHAT--?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND--
JEEPERS, CREEPER...
...WHERE'DJA GET THAT *PEEPER?*
CHF
CHF
CHF
CHF

SKREEEYOWNK!!
I DON'T CARE HOW BIG AND MEAN YOU ARE.
FOUR CLAWS SHOT INTO YOUR EYEBALL FROM TWELVE INCHES AWAY WILL GET YOU SHOOK.

I DON'T USUALLY LIKE TO ADVERTISE THAT I CAN SHOOT MY CLAWS LIKE THAT.
IT'S ONLY GOOD OUT TO ABOUT A FOOT, AND THEN, WELL, I'VE GOT NO CLAWS ON THAT HAND UNTIL I CAN SEAT NEW ONES.
FELICIA!
BUT THAT'S OKAY.
ROOOAARRGH!!
I DON'T EXPECT THAT IT'LL MATTER IN A COUPLE MINUTES.
FELICIA HARDY!
FELICIA HARDY, YOU DUMB &%$#!

FOR GOD'S SAKE, MJ, I TOLD YOU TO RUN--
NOW YOU LISTEN TO ME.
DO YOU THINK I'M MAD AT YOU BECAUSE YOU, QUOTE, UNQUOTE, "STOLE MY EX-BOYFRIEND"?
IS THAT WHY YOU THINK I'M YELLING AT YOU?
I MEAN... YEAH?
I DON'T CARE THAT YOU AND PETER ARE... DOING WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING.
I HAVE A LIFE OF MY OWN THAT DOESN'T REVOLVE AROUND PETER B. PARKER! I'VE GOT KIDS! FELICIA, I'M MAD AT YOU BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T TELL ME! BECAUSE YOU LET IT TIE YOU UP IN KNOTS AND SCREW US OVER!
I'M HAPPY FOR YOU! THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS DO, AND WE'RE FRIENDS!
...
YEAH. WE ARE, AREN'T WE?
FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I'M SORRY.
TELL HIM GOODBYE FOR ME, WILL YOU?

TELL HIM YOURSELF.
I DON'T KNOW HOW MY POWER, MY BAD-LUCK THING, WORKS.
BUT MJ WAS *RIGHT*. I WAS FEELING SO *GUILTY*, I WAS SUBCONSCIOUSLY WRECKING HER LUCK.
BUT I DON'T FEEL GUILTY ANYMORE.
WHICH MEANS I'M NOT MAKING BAD LUCK FOR *HER* ANYMORE.
I'M MAKING BAD LUCK FOR THE *GUARDIAN* ALONE.
AND BAD LUCK FOR

...IS GOOD LUCK FOR HER.
777

SEVEN...
...SEVEN...
...SEVEN.
JACKPOT.

HMM.
S'YM DIED.
CAN'T HAVE THAT.
SO.
YOU'RE *SURE* YOU'RE NOT MAD AT ME?
BECAUSE YOU'RE A LOT SCARIER THAN YOU WERE A MINUTE AGO.
HEY, WASN'T I *DEAD?*
IT APPEARS THAT I HAVE THE POWER TO REWRITE REALITY IN MY IMMEDIATE VICINITY. *THAT'S* A GOOD ONE.
WATCH YOURSELF, I'LL GIVE YOU BACK YOUR *OLD* NOSE
I NEVER *HAD* A NOSE JOB.

I SHOULD'VE TOLD YOU.
YOU SHOULD HAVE, YES.
BUT I WAS SCARED, YOU KNOW? I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT YOU'D SAY. WHAT YOU'D THINK.
YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN. WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS A LONG TIME, FELICIA.
YEAH, YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
(AS ALWAYS, UGH.)
WHAT WAS THAT?
NOTHING.
OKAY. YOU READY TO GET THIS DONE AND GET OUT OF HERE?
NO, I LOVE LIMBO AND WANT TO STAY HERE FOREVER.
OF COURSE I AM.
THEN THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING, EARTH GIRLS.

SO, SINCE YOU'RE CAPTAIN UNIVERSE NOW OR WHATEVER, CAN YOU JUST *SEND US HOME?*
NO.
I CAN ONLY AFFECT WHAT'S AROUND ME.
AND NOT FOR MUCH LONGER, SO LET'S BE QUICK ABOUT THIS *SOULSWORD* BUSINESS.
SPEAK OF THE DEVIL...
THE DEVIL'S *SWORD*, AT ANY RATE.
WE PREFER *DEMON*, THANKS.

I ASSUME THAT MY BRINGING YOU BACK TO *LIFE* HAS *TEMPERED* YOUR PLANS TO *BETRAY* US, OF COURSE.
HEY, OF COURSE, I'M COOL.

COOL. LET'S GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

WAIT!

BAD MOVE, S'YM.
NO! THERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T KNOW!
SPIT IT OUT.
LOOK. NEITHER OF YOU ARE MAGIC. YOU DON'T GOT ANY TRAINING.
YOU GRAB THAT SOULSWORD AND IT'S GOING TO BOND WITH YOU, GRAFT RIGHT ONTO YOUR SOUL LIKE A LEECH FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
IT'LL BE YOURS. YOU CAN'T JUST GIVE IT TO BELASCO.

THAT'S STUPID.
WHY WOULD HE SEND US TO GET SOMETHING THAT WE CAN'T THEN GIVE TO HIM?
BECAUSE, RED, HE'S GOING TO KILL WHOEVER'S GOT IT AND THEN TAKE IT OFF THEIR DEAD BODY.
RIGHT, S'YM?
YEAH, PRETTY MUCH.
NEITHER OF YOU HAVE THE MAGIC TO KEEP IT FROM HAPPENING--EVEN WITH THE SUPER-POWER THING YOU'VE GOT GOING ON.
THEN... HOW DO WE GET IT BACK TO HIM?
BECAUSE IF WE DON'T, WE DON'T GET HOME.
ONE OF US IS GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE THE HIT.
COME ON, RED. THINK ABOUT IT.
LIKE YOU SAID.
YOU'VE GOT KIDS TO GET BACK TO.
FELICIA!

SHORTLY.
FINALLY. OUT OF THE TOWER AT LEAST. NOW TO GET BACK AND GET OUT OF LIMBO.
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DID THAT, EARTH GIRL.
YEAH, WELL, WHAT OTHER CHOICE DID WE HAVE?
OH. UH, GUYS? THERE'S SOMETHING WE FORGOT.
REMEMBER HOW ALL THE OTHER GUYS LOOKING FOR THE SOULSWORD CAMPED OUTSIDE THE SCREAMING TOWER SO THEY COULD JUMP THE CHUMPS WHO CAME OUT WITH THE PRIZE?

THOSE CHUMPS ARE US.
TO BE CONCLUDED!

NEXT:

© 2023 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

ZONE